

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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SOURCE:

1. The Polish Ocean Lines (Polskie Linie Oceaniczne -- PLO) controlled all large ocean-going ships such as liners, freighters, tankers, tramp steamers, etc. of the Polish Merchant Marine and operated regular lines from the Polish ports of Gdynia, Gdansk, and Szczecin.
2. The PLO was subordinated to the Central Administration of the Polish Merchant Marine (Centralny Zarzad Polskiej Marynarki Handlowej -- CZPMH), the government agency which controlled all Polish shipping companies. Head offices of both the CZPMH and the PLO were located in the same building at 10 Lutego Street in Gdynia.
3. PLO's head office was composed of the following sections: personnel, crew, management, commercial, passenger, transport, supply and technical and navigation inspectorates. I heard that all matters concerning the Poland-China Line were dealt with by a special section.
4. PLO had its own employment office called the Biuro Angazowania Zalog (BAZ) on Portowa Street. Prior to 1950, all Merchant Marine officers, engineers, and sailors had to apply for their jobs through the seaman's section of the Trade Union of Transport Workers, a labor agency which checked their qualifications and training and kept all records, issued certificates, sailors' books, etc. Since 1950, the duties of the trade union had been taken over by the PLO and other shipping or fishing enterprises. One had to apply for a job directly to the shipping company or fishing enterprise, and, when accepted, was automatically registered with the Trade Union of Maritime Workers (Zwiazek Zawodowy Pracownikow Zegluga), formerly the Trade Union of Transport Workers, which no longer had any right to act as labor agency.

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5. With the written application for a job with PLO every sailor had to include the following papers and documents; life history, personal questionnaire of eight pages, birth certificate, certificate of Polish citizenship, soldier's book, certificate of criminal record and political reliability, certificate of residence, identity card, certificate of discharge from former employer, and marriage certificate. One had to wait for a reply between two to six weeks. As far as I remember, the majority of applicants were usually rejected and only a few got a job.

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